
WORLD / A8
Thai PM Thaksin defiant in face of turmoil

ACROSS / A13
Protest letters swamp Benguet on dog trade

METRO / A15
Family of TUP student killed in hazing rites seeks justice

ENTERTAINMENT / A21
Fil-Am director set to take on Hollywood


Proficiency of high school seniors in Filipino declines

By Alcuin Papa

PROFICIENCY / A11

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
Tuesday, March 7, 2006 ★★ Vol. 21 | No. 89

Pacquiao et al. delay flight; airline staff irked

By Nikko Dizon

PACQUIAO / A11

Malacañang open to talks with military rebs, but . . .

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr., Philip C. Tubeza and Christian V. Esguerra

MALACAÑANG YESTERDAY SAID it was ready to discuss with soldiers the "underlying causes" of military restiveness, but it would not agree to the meeting being turned into a propaganda forum.

MALACAÑANG / A6

GMA opponents shift battle to SC

Gov't argues petitions against 1017 already moot

By Armand Nocum, TJ Burgonio and Christine O. Avendaño

GOVERNMENT LAWyers yesterday told the Supreme Court that President Macapagal-Arroyo's lifting of her proclamation of a state of national emergency had made petitions challenging its constitutionality moot and academic and should be dismissed.

GMA OPPONENTS / A6



CONGRESSWOMEN, together with party-list Representatives Joel Virador and Teddy Casiño, celebrate the start of Women's Month in Congress by releasing doves to dramatize their protest against the arrest orders issued against five of their colleagues for rebellion.

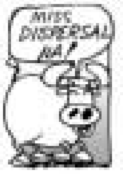
Women rule House, but only for a day

By Michael Lim Ubac

WOMEN HAVE TAKEN OVER THE House leadership—but only for a day.

WOMEN / A14

Cops not amused by mock beauty pageant vs GMA



COPS / A6

'Crash' pulls off Oscar upset for best picture

LOS ANGELES—"CRASH" PULLED OFF ONE of the biggest upsets in Academy Awards history, winning best picture on Sunday over the front-runner "Brokeback Mountain."

'CRASH' / A7



ANG Lee poses with his Oscar for best director for "Brokeback Mountain," the first Asian to garner the award.



PHILIP Seymour Hoffman, adjudged best actor for his role in "Capote," and Reese Witherspoon, best actress for her role in "Walk the Line," meet press photographers backstage with their trophies.

Cops nab big resin importer for smuggling

By Luige A. del Puerto and Leila B. Salaverria

COPS NAB / A6

Second FRONTPAGE

'Gov't pushing us against the wall'

Satur warns: All options are open

By Michael Lim Ubac

OPPOSITION LEGISLATORS WARNED YESTERday that continued threats to arrest party-list members of the House of Representatives would force the militant representatives to go underground and join rebel forces in the hills.

Querubin wife admits getting ₱3-M Erap check

By Luige A. del Puerto

Scout Rangers major arrested

By Dona Pazzibugan

Salonga offers to mediate row between 2 LP factions

By TJ Burgonio

Bro. Eddie accuses gov't of censorship

Palace readies English version of 1017 video

Traders face probe for coup links



WE CAN WIN GLOBALLY WITH 4 POINTS

Energy Independence – Forty six percent of the country's total energy consumption is imported; almost 98% of the gasoline used is sourced abroad. As each day goes by, Filipinos continue to suffer the effects of the worldwide energy crisis. The swelling oil prices coupled with the fluctuation of the local currency easily translate to the constant increase in the prices of electricity and transport fuels. These in turn result in higher transport costs and subsequently, in the escalation of prices of major commodities. While countries like the members of the European Union, the United States, Brazil, Australia, China, India, and Thailand have already realized the potential of developing fuel ethanol, the Philippines has yet to activate its pursuit of energy security. Once again, the country is lagging behind global trends.

Environment – The use of fuel ethanol has numerous advantages. Bioethanol, for example, improves the environment because its high level of oxygen increases the efficiency of the combustion process. Being natural, fuel ethanol reduces particulate emissions, especially fine particles that pose health threats to children and senior citizens. Fuel ethanol also abates greenhouse gases, which are considered as the main contributors for global warming, by reducing fossil fuel use. The burning of imported fossil fuels results in the release of toxic chemicals affecting human health. This situation is most evident in highly-urbanized areas like Metro Manila and Cebu City where air pollution is caused largely by fuel combustion engines. Fuel ethanol indeed promotes the preservation of the environment and the wellness of the general public.

Employment – The production of alternative fuels will spark capital investment, job creation, and economic development in the Philippines, especially in the countryside. Since the production of biofuels requires processing homegrown agricultural crops, it can create direct employment in the agriculture and manufacturing sectors. With a comprehensive biofuels program in place, agricultural products will be used not only for food, but for fuel as well. Farmers' products will then be in demand, consequently increasing their incomes. Moreover, the land areas or products to be devoted to biofuels do not diminish on the country's food security basket. The nascent bioethanol industry alone is expected to create no less than 100,000 employment opportunities, mostly in the rural areas. Biofuels is the potent and long-term remedy to the issues of unemployment, urban migration, and the need for rural development.

Economy – The Philippine economy is expected to increase greatly in combined agriculture and manufacturing value added should a domestic fuel ethanol industry be established and sustained. For example, the nationwide use of 5 to 10 percent ethanol in the country's gasoline pool is expected to contribute to the expansion of the economy by 70 billion pesos over the next ten years. In addition, improved domestic fuel security brings about reduced reliance on fossil fuels. With the expected use of ethanol under a National Biofuels Program, which shall ensure the use of 5 percent blend of ethanol in gasoline from year 2007 to 2010 and 10 percent blend from 2010 to 2017, a total of 3.7 billion liters of gasoline shall be displaced over a ten-year period. This accounts for savings in foreign exchange of a total of no less than US$1 billion over ten years or US$100 million annually. In other countries, bioethanol reduces the consumer cost of gasoline by extending supplies, providing an alternative to costly imported oil.

The House of Representatives has passed the Biofuels Act of 2005 in November last year.
The Bill was certified urgent by the Administration. The Senate is about to approve a similar Bill.
LET'S ACT NOW. LET'S TEAM UP TOGETHER AND WIN THIS GAME.

PHILIPPINE FUEL ETHANOL ALLIANCE

www.bioethanol.com.ph

Senate to summon PNP, NTC: Explain media crackdown

By Philip C. Tubeza

GMA opponents shift battle to Supreme Court

Cops not amused by mock beauty pageant vs GMA



Malacañang open …

Cops nab big resin importer for smuggling

'Crash' pulls off Oscar upset for best picture



GEORGE Clooney holds on to his Oscar trophy for best supporting actor for his role in "Syriana." AP

First Asian

Hip-hop tune

Rule breakers

The WORLD

Thaksin defiant in face of turmoil

BANGKOK, THAILAND—THAI PRIME MINISTER Thaksin Shinawatra dismissed calls for his resignation Monday, after thousands of antigovernment demonstrators marched to his office and insisted protests would continue every day until he steps down.



A DEMONSTRATOR holds a poster of Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra with a Hitler-like moustache, depicting him as a dictator next to protesters sleeping in front of the Grand Palace in Bangkok, March 6.

UN watchdog meets to weigh Iran snub

WorldBriefs

Pakistan troops kill 50 pro-Taliban fighters

Chinese serial killer

Vanilla from cow dung

Celebrex safety confirmed in clinical trial



THE POLISH agriculture ministry confirmed Sunday the first two cases of H5 bird flu in Poland, detected in swans found dead in Torun.

Chinese dies of bird flu; virus spreads in Europe

US solons seek overhaul of review process on foreign deals

Homeland Security HQ 'insecure'



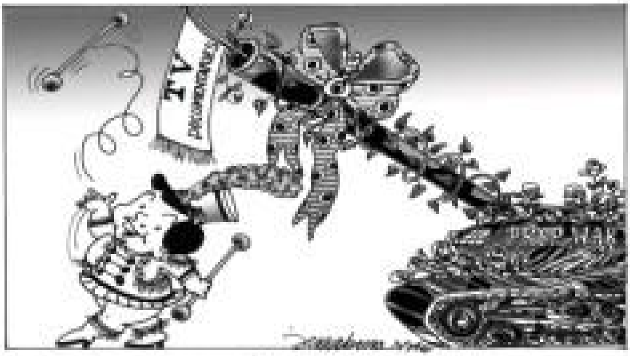






PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION



The press and presidents

EDITORIAL

Another 'Rolex 12'?

VIEWPOINT



Juan L. Mercado

Revenge of the 'trapos'

THERE'S THE RUB



Conrado de Quiros

Nelly's word against Peping's

POLITICAL TIDBITS



Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

Some kind of jackpot

AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

The return of the radicals

WORLD VIEW

Jack A. Goldstone

Rising from the mud

YOUNG BLOOD

Joy Bailey

THEY SAID

Controversial act

Ali Baba's thieves

Incorrigible destabilizers

[illegible]



Ridiculous and shameful

[illegible]

LETTERS

Flickers of light leading to a new dawn

[illegible]

VAT on pilfered electricity BIR's order

[illegible]

Why GMA finds it hard to resign

[illegible]

Lifestyle of materialism and greed

[illegible]

A tragic blow on civil service

[illegible]

1017 needed for economic takeoff

[illegible]

The 'crime capital' of the Philippines

[illegible]



Breathing life into Manila's barangays

[illegible]

[illegible]

Across the NATION

Gov't pursuing peace talks–Dureza

COTABATO CITY—FORMAL PEACE TALKS between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) have not been postponed contrary to claims by some quarters, Presidential Peace Adviser Jesus Dureza said.

S. Cotabato gov orders closure of small-scale mines



LANDSLIDE SURVIVORS

Residents of Barangay Ginsaugon have taken temporary refuge in the classrooms of a Regional High School in St. Bernard since the Feb. 17 killer landslide that buried their homes and loved ones.

Gov't identifies landslide-prone areas in Bohol

By Chito A. Fuentes
PDI Visayas Bureau

Protests swamp Benguet on dog trade

By Delmar Cariño
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Marine exec reminds troops of 3-point guidance

ROUNDUP

1 killed in Davao flash flood

Village chief, 2 others slain in ambush

Bulacan village head shot dead

Cops oppose drawing salaries from ATMs

Pacquiao et al. delay flight…

Champ didn't smile

Aide fell on his butt

Lover takes swing

Women rule House, but only for a day

Irony

Vital women's legislation

Women outnumber men

Proficiency of high school seniors in Filipino declines

Training of teachers

NAT today

METRO

Editor: Ester G. Dipasupil

Hazing victim's family wants killers nailed

Anti-crime watchdog seeks prison probe

Sexual harassment at DOJ: the plot thickens

ON TARGET

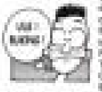
Ramon Tulfo



7 suspected drug pushers nabbed in Taguig

METROBRIEFS

4 Pasay gov't employees in trouble



Rude welcome for ex-Baguio mayor, wife

when buying a condo, ask yourself ...



With all other condos you get a BARE unit upon turnover ...

"is what you SEE really what you're going to GET?"



but with SoMa and Soho Central, all unit owners get FULLY-FITTED and STYLISHLY FURNISHED units

All other projects dazzle you with fancy model units, designed by famous interior designers, but come turnover time, all you get is a completely bare shell, with incomplete finishings, and the most spartan of fittings.

Century Properties and Meridien Development Group, the creators of the award winning Essensa East Forbes at the Fort, are now offering the first and ONLY fully-fitted and stylishly furnished hi-rise residences in the country with South of Market or SoMa (at the Bonifacio Global City) and Soho Central (across Shangri-La Plaza Mall).

All units come with air conditioning, kitchen cabinetry, refrigerator, cooktop, modern rangehood, microwave, a washing machine, bedframe, a flatscreen TV with DVD player, a full sound and entertainment system, a dining showcase, a living room setup, and bathroom fittings, at **NO EXTRA COST!**

So no expensive interior design bills, no time wasted looking for appliances and furniture. No move-in worries. No disappointments.

Two more feathers in our cap! Soho Central has been awarded the Most Outstanding Hi-rise Building in 2005 and Century Properties Group is the recipient of the prestigious Global Excellence Award 2005 for Most Outstanding Philippine Real Estate Firm.

Come visit our model units to see just what more you'll get when you make your home with Century.

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Fort Bonifacio Global City



As low as P 3M or P 18,000/month

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SPORTS
Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

What's Inside



Orcollo nails 3rd US title /A18
Mantalo coach Suan set to quit /A18



Tiger retains Doral crown /A19
Bryant centerpiece of new-look US five /A19



Brian backs Olympic gold bid /A20

RP cagers find work in Indonesia

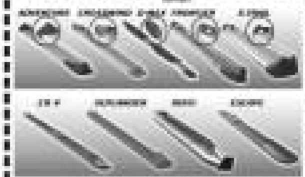


COCA-COLA'S Rafi Reavis grabs the rebound off Air21's Mark Telan (left) and Homer Se in Sunday's game won by the Tigers, 104-83.

See action as imports to boost Jakarta league

By Jose Ñisosa

THIS IS ONE GAUGE OF THE REVERED STAtus of Philippine basketball in Southeast Asia.





Mustangs post breakthrough win in NSBC caging

NBC stalwart Spring five ties up with Parañaque



Montaña coach Sison set to quit

Disagreement with management over recruit last straw, say sources

PBA drug tests yield good results

Orcollo nails 3rd US crown



Moto Masters of Asia faces cancellation



Arcilla leads Filipino victors over Japanese

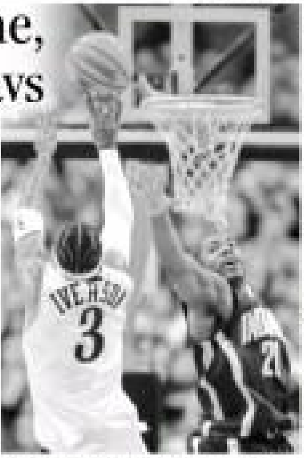
Why Gabi lost

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza



Suns shine, dump Mavs



Bryant centerpiece of new-look US five



Tiger retains Doral crown



World Baseball fails to impress Japanese fans

Olivarez High a win shy of NCRAA title

Paragua, Antonio on course for q'finals



SPORTS

HERO'S WELCOME

Brian backs Olympic gold bid



No more new names, please, PSC tells NSAs

Maroons shut out Tigers, seize UAAP baseball title

18th Corporate Cup tourney under way at Camp John Hay

Submission of entries on for SJC derby

ENTERTAINMENT

Fil-Am director set to take on Hollywood

By Bayani San Diego Jr.
Photos by Jon Bobis Poquiz



Ana Marie Laperal, who once worked with Jodie Foster, now directs Donita Rose in an international movie to be shot in Malate

A SUMMA CUM LAUDE graduate of Film and Television from the University of California Los Angeles, 28-year-old Filipino-American Ana Marie Laperal has set up her own independent production company, [illegible] Films, in Hollywood.

[illegible]

TAKE FIVE

Flower Power, Rustom's tale and Marvin's model

DOLLY WOOD
Dolly Anne Carvajal



[illegible]

Guess who?

[illegible]

Frantic text

[illegible]

No surprise

[illegible]

Baguio break

[illegible]

INQUIRER TV GUIDE
Tuesday March 7, 2006



TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE



CINEMA ACCESS
635-5555
FOR ALL BRANCHES

GALLERIA

1 MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA - THX
2 FEARLESS
3 BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN
4 FINAL DESTINATION 3
5 PRIDE AND PREJUDICE
6 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE 2
7 ANG NASAAN SI FRANCIS?
8 HOSTEL Sneak Preview
9 AEON FLUX
10 CLOSE TO YOU

ERMITA

1 FEARLESS
2 CLOSE TO YOU
3 HOSTEL Sneak Preview
4 FINAL DESTINATION 3
5 PRIDE AND PREJUDICE
6 MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA / BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN
7 ANG NASAAN SI FRANCIS?

METRO EAST

1 CLOSE TO YOU
2 FEARLESS
3 MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA
4 FINAL DESTINATION 3
5 MURDER
6 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE 2
7 BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN
8 HOSTEL Sneak Preview

NOVALICHES

1 MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA
2 BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN
4 FEARLESS
5 BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE 2
6 HOSTEL Sneak Preview

CITISQUARE MALABON

1 BLOODRAYNE
2 CLOSE TO YOU
3 RESERVE
4 RESERVE

PIONEER

1 FEARLESS
2 PRIDE AND PREJUDICE
3 FINAL DESTINATION 3
4 HOSTEL Sneak Preview



STA. ROSA

1 SYRIANA
2 HOSTEL Sneak Preview
3 CLOSE TO YOU
4 NEW WORLD
5 FEARLESS

LIPA

1 MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA
2 UNDERWORLD 2
3 CLOSE TO YOU
4 CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2

DASMARIÑAS

1 FEARLESS
2 HOSTEL Sneak Preview
3 CLOSE TO YOU
4 MURDER
5 BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN

ANGELES

1 NEW WORLD
2 HOSTEL Sneak Preview
3 LITTLE MANHATTAN
4 FEARLESS

IMUS

1 CLOSE TO YOU
2 MURDER
3 FEARLESS
4 BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN
5 HOSTEL Sneak Preview

STARMILLS

1 LITTLE MANHATTAN
2 CLOSE TO YOU
3 CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2
4 HOSTEL Sneak Preview
5 FEARLESS
6 AEON FLUX

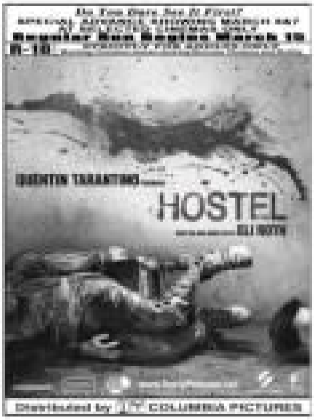
BACOLOD

1 UNDERWORLD 2
2 FIREWALL
3 MUNICH
4 BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN
5 MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA
6 CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2

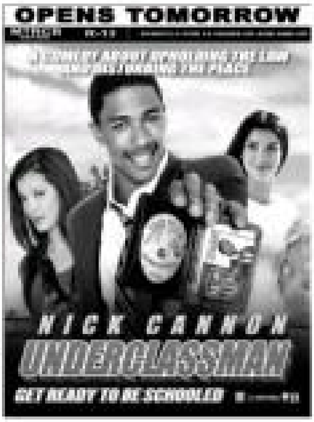
ILOILO

1 AEON FLUX
2 CLOSE TO YOU
3 MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA
4 FIREWALL
5 WALK THE LINE
6 BLOODRAYNE









2nd Moonrise docu fest now accepting entries

[illegible]

Winning films will have the chance to be shown in different festivals here and abroad.

Last year's Moonrise gathered over 1,400 [illegible]







Action hero worship

By Oliver M. Pulumbarit
Contributor

[illegible]

ACTION/A2-4

Fil-am director set to take . . .



LAPERAL with her star Diana Ross

Action hero worship

Michael Bolton at the Big Dome March 29



MICHAEL Bolton

SHOW TIME

Tonight

Tomorrow

March 9

March 10

March 11

March 12

March 13

March 14

March 15

March 16

March 17

March 18

March 20

March 21

March 22

March 23

March 24

March 25

Bamboo @ Virgin Cafe on March 9

Kuh and Pops repeat



POPS Fernandez and Kuh Ledesma



BAMBOO

'Syriana' lifts veil of mystery and duplicity

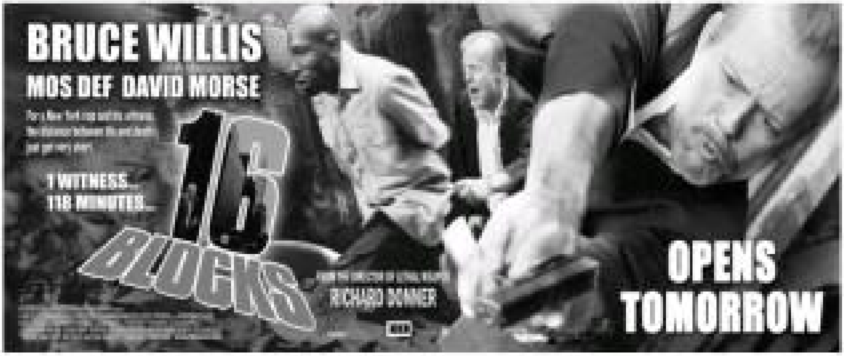
VIEWFINDER



Nestor U. Torre

The movie steps on a lot of toes, including our own, jolting us to attention and potential action

Bo Sanchez



TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2006
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
B1

BUSINESS

Editor Rosi O. Marcelo
Assistant Editor Dennis S. Narciso

Budget deficit stays below ceiling

Due to belt-tightening, higher tax collection

By Michelle V. Remo

THE GOVERNMENT POSTED A BUDGET DEFICIT of P15.4 billion in January, or P5.5 billion lower than the P20.9-billion ceiling for the month, the Department of Finance reported yesterday.

DEFICIT / B2

CURRENCIES



GOLD

STOCK MARKET

Stocks up as political tension eases



STOCKS / B2

WHAT'S INSIDE

Peso rallies, nears 51:$1 level

By Doris C. Dumlao

Pacquiao switches diet to fight-o-chemicals

MR. BEARBULL

Late Oscar news

SM Prime posts 8% growth in 2005 profit

Budget deficit . . .

Disclosures

Stocks up . . .

SBMA gets to issue ECCs anew; investments seen to flow easier

MVP boosts holdings in PLDT

Telco chair now owns ₱380.3 million worth of stocks

Gov't, Philnico OK out-of-court settlement

Diplomats' vehicles exempted from EO 418

Business

Gov't aims to sell ₱2B in state assets



LAND FOR SOCIALIZED HOUSING



Chevron begs off from selling biodiesel



GMA urged to persuade firms to list up

Lure investors

Situation normal

No speeches

$5 hotel room levy opposed

PNOC-EDC taking over steam plant



UNLIMITED CALLS FROM JAPAN

BOT deal governing CalEnergy-operated facility in Leyte expiring

FBMA spending $5M to expand shipyard

IBC-13 privatization facing further delay

YOUR health is in your hands /C2

LIFESTYLE

How to prepare for a walkathon

WELL AND GOOD

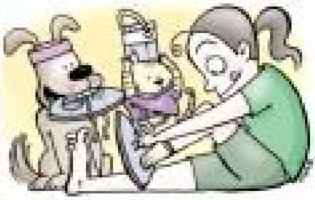
Tina Juan



Why prepare

Training program

Walk this way



EXERCISE OF THE WEEK

Modified hand-to-toe pose





Beauty, wellness seminars

The simplest way to stay healthy

THE WORLD HEALTH Organization reports that 3.5 million children under 5 years old die each year from diarrheal and respiratory diseases.



DR. TIM Long



DR. ANNA Beatriz Bowen

Not number but when

Education

Children, in particular, can avoid killer diseases by just washing their hands



Healthful new products, inventions

INSIDE OUT

Cory Quirino



Tesla anti-Electronic Pollution

Healthy oil

Carb snack

Probiotic role

Coincidences are more frequent now than before

INNER AWARENESS



Amazing

Lecture

Medical school marks 50th year







Doggies in the window

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH



Maurice Arcache



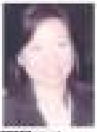




















Erratum